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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 645
By Gilbert

A RESOLUTION to honor Chancellor David Cate on the occasion
of his retirement from the bench.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who in
their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion;
and

WHEREAS, Chancellor David Cate is most assuredly one such estimable citizen
deserving of special recognition; he has served with honor and distinction for 17 meritorious
years as Chancellor for Knox County Chancery Court; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, David Cate was born on May 30, 1941 to the late
Reverend Homer A. and Edna Palmer Cate; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Cate graduated cum laude from Carson Newman College in
1963 and received his law degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 1965;
and

WHEREAS, prior to his sterling tenure as Chancellor, David Cate served with probity as
an attorney for the Tennessee Department of Revenue. He became a partner with the highly
regarded law firm of Cate and Boswell in 1967; and

WHEREAS, from 1968-1981, he served with acumen and acuity as Clerk and Master for
the Chancery Court of Knox County; and

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WHEREAS, Governor Lamar Alexander appointed him to the bench as Chancellor for Knox County Chancery Court on September 8, 1981; he was subsequently elected to this important office in August 1982 and re-elected in August 1990; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Cate has built a reputation for integrity and fairness while serving as clerk and chancellor for 30 years and been involved in forty percent of all cases filed in Knox County Chancery Court in its 166 year history; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career on the bench, Chancellor Cate has always been committed to protecting the constitutional rights of every citizen, and has served with integrity, stability and honor as a distinguished member of Knox County's judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Cate is an active and vital part of the community and his profession, participating in numerous civic organizations, including the Cherokee Lodge Number 728, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Kerbel Temple and secretary of the Knoxville Central Gideon Camp; and

WHEREAS, in 1980-81, the Exchange Club selected Chancellor David Cate as Tennessee Exchangite of the Year; and

WHEREAS, he also admirably served as past president of the East Tennessee Clerk's Association and served on the Board of Management of the Sons of the Revolution; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Cate evinces his deep faith in the Lord as a member of the Sevier Heights Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, his countless accomplishments aside, Chancellor Cate is most appreciative of the love he shares with his fiancée Brigitte Wallace, and with his two daughters, Shawn Allison Cate and Amy Lynne Cate; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor David Cate exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and commend Chancellor Cate on his exemplary judicial service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING,
That we hereby honor Chancellor David Cate upon his meritorious service to the good people of
Knox County; salute his remarkable tenure as Chancellor for Knox County, and extend to him
our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.